



Stay on **TRRAC** . . .

With Multi-Family Recycling

Issue No. 8, January 2008

Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums in Montgomery County, Maryland

Calendar of Events

January 17, 2008

Recycling Volunteer Training Session

101 Monroe Street
Lobby-Level Auditorium
Rockville, Maryland 20850

6pm – 9pm

Please invite your residents to join us!

To register, please call the Recycling Volunteer Program at (240) 777-6445.

February 1, 2008

Annual Recycling and Waste Reduction Reports are due

March 20, 2008

TRRAC Seminar

Bethesda Marriott Hotel
5151 Pooks Hill Road
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

10am – 2pm

Please join us!

April 22, 2008

Earth Day

Host an event at your property!

April 26, 2008

Division of Solid Waste Services' Earth Day Celebration

Location To Be Determined

11am – 3pm

Please join us!

May 19-23, 2008

Recycling Awareness Week in Montgomery County

In recognition of multi-family properties, businesses, schools, organizations, and individuals that meet and exceed the County's recycling requirements.

TV Recycling Has Arrived!

Montgomery County now accepts televisions for recycling! Please let your residents know about this new service that's at no additional charge. Hopefully, the news will keep these items out of your bulk trash.

With the February 2009 transition to all-digital broadcasting legislated by Congress, the County anticipates that residents will want to replace analog televisions with digital televisions, or simply finally take the plunge and purchase a flat screen television. In the first trial month of the program, Montgomery County residents recycled more than 15 tons of televisions!

Residents may bring their television sets to the Montgomery County Solid Waste Transfer Station and Recycling Center located at 16101 Frederick Road (near the intersection of Route 355 and Shady Grove Road). From there, the TVs are transported to E-Structors, located in Elkridge, Maryland, where they are weighed and undergo a process that separates the plastic or wooden casing from the picture tube. The tubes then go to a glass processor who employs a glass-to-glass process to create more cathode ray tubes (CRTs). Electrical cords are clipped to be recycled along with the plastics. Steel from various parts are separated out and recycled by a steel processor.

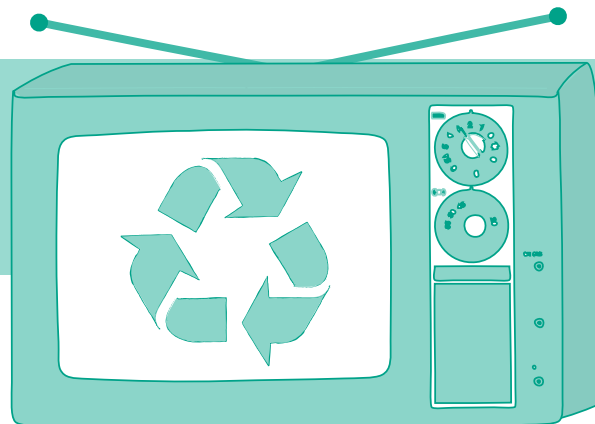
E-Structors also handles the County's successful computer and related electronics recycling program. This program accepts items such as old or unwanted central processing units, hard drives, monitors, keyboards, printers and copiers, laptop computers, wires and power cords, computer speakers, surge protectors, video cards, scanners, computer mice, software (including floppy disks), and other peripheral computer equipment. The age or operating speed of the computer or part does not matter. All collected material is recycled through donations, reuse or remanufacturing.

Residents who want to keep their analog televisions (waste reduction!) may apply for coupons, offered by the Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration, that offset the purchase of digital-to-analog converter boxes that enable analog televisions to operate in the new environment.

Persons dropping off TVs, computers, or other related electronics at the Transfer Station/Recycling Center should use the Route 355 car entrance and follow the signs to the area for recyclable items. The TV collection area is next to the fenced-in computer/electronics recycling area. Residents may drop off a maximum of three TVs per visit.

The Transfer Station is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more questions about the TV recycling program, call the Transfer Station at 301-840-2370.



Annual Reports Due February 1!

Annual Recycling and Waste Reduction Reports for calendar year 2007 are due by Friday, February 1, 2008. Every multi-family property with seven or more units in Montgomery County is required to submit this report. The report records the type and quantity of material recycled and disposed by the property, staff and resident education activities, and waste reduction efforts. The Division of Solid Waste Services (DSWS) uses this information to estimate the recycling rate achieved by each property, assess the success of its recycling programs, and monitor compliance with its recycling regulations. Multi-family properties that fail to file an Annual Recycling report by the deadline may be issued a fine of up to \$150 per day; levied each day the report is late.

Tips to help you complete your Annual Recycling and Waste Reduction Report:

1. Use the new report form. Reports submitted on older forms will be considered incomplete. The new report form has three pages, including one that addresses education and waste reduction activities at your property. Report forms and instructions were mailed to all properties in early December. If you did not receive a copy of the report form, call the TRRAC Program at 240-777-6446 or download a copy by visiting www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling and clicking on "Apartment/Condominium Recycling Program."
2. Gather your data. Collect your recycling and solid waste invoices, contracts, and scale house weight tickets. If you need information from your collector, request that information as early as possible, recognizing that they may have many multi-family property clients who may request similar information from them.
3. Complete all applicable rows in the data table, including "Scrap Metal," "Yard Trim," and "Christmas Trees." You are required to provide recycling programs for these materials. If you do not include information on your report regarding these recycling programs, your report will be considered incomplete. If you have trouble figuring out how to report this information, please call us, and we will help you. These materials count towards your recycling rate!
4. Don't forget to fill in the "Solid Waste (Trash)" data table row. Without information on your actual trash weights, we cannot calculate your recycling rate.
5. Write the property name at the top of the second page.
6. Review your report before you submit it. If a collector fills out the data table for you, make sure that the data they report is consistent with what you see at your property. You may find that they are charging you for containers that are no longer there, or that they are not charging you for containers that are there and therefore under-reporting your recycling achievement. One collector may not have data on all of your recycling and solid waste programs; for example, you may have separate collectors for bulk trash, scrap metal, and yard trim (landscaping material).
7. Please do not file online. Currently, the County only offers online reporting for the non-residential sector. The County is working on providing online reporting for multi-family properties in the future.
8. Sign the report.
9. Call us with questions.



The annual report is a chance to highlight the improvements made at your property to reduce solid waste and increase recycling achievement, like upgrading from wheeled carts to a two-cubic yard dumpster for mixed paper and cardboard.



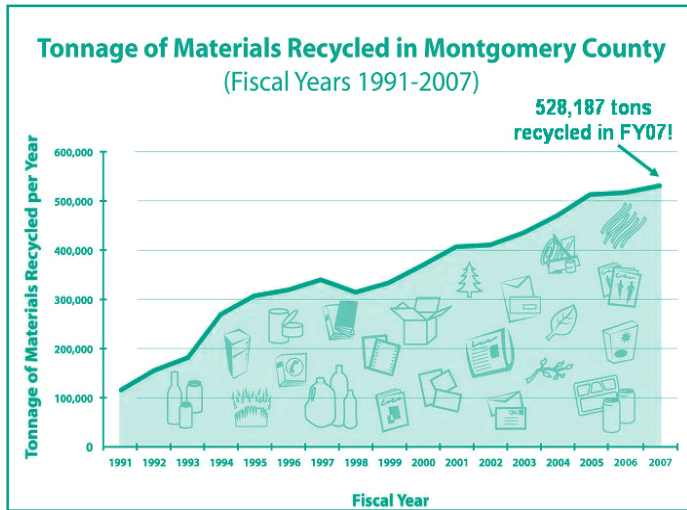
Report your recycling education activities on the new third page.



Fill out all required rows in the data table, including the "Scrap Metal" row.

Does It + All Add = Up?

You are monitoring your property's recycling containers, increasing collection frequency and/or container sizes, and educating your residents... is it making a difference???

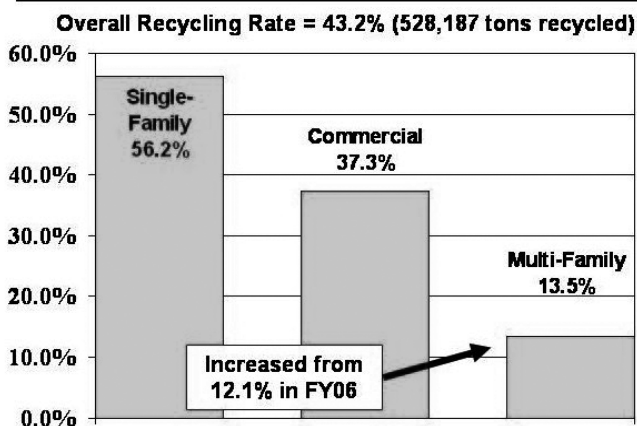


YES!!

In fiscal year 2007 (FY07), the Montgomery County recycling rate increased from 41.7 percent to 43.2 percent! Our recycling rate is one of the highest in the country and contributed to Montgomery County being named number one, out of 13 local jurisdictions, for recycling in the December 2007 issue of Washingtonian magazine. Overall Montgomery County residents and businesses generated 1,222,475 tons of solid waste in FY07. This is a decrease of 25,174 tons from waste generated in FY06. And, every sector—single family, multi-family, and businesses—increased their recycling achievement! The multi-family property recycling rate increased from 12.1 percent to 13.5 percent.

With six months remaining in FY08, we still have opportunities to continue improving recycling participation at multi-family properties and further increase the recycling rate. Thank you for your contribution to helping Montgomery County achieve its goal of recycling 50 percent of all solid waste generated in the County.

FY07 Recycling Rate by Sector



**EARTH
DAY
2008**

Happy New Year! Looking for a good new year's resolution? How about planning ahead? April 22, 2008, is the 38th celebration of Earth Day, when people pause to recognize the importance of environmental protection and contribute to creating a sustainable way of life. In 2007, an estimated one billion people around the world celebrated Earth Day.

What will your property do for Earth Day? With the costs of energy soaring and global warming such a hot topic, now is the time to educate residents on how recycling can conserve energy and our natural resources. Your Earth Day event will help our environment, create community pride, and bring people together for the common good. Here are some ideas to help you to make this Earth Day one that helps make Montgomery County a more sustainable place to live, work and play:

- Have a pizza party or potluck, and talk to your residents about how and why to recycle; invite the TRRAC team to speak to your community and answer those persistent questions such as, "Why should we recycle? What kinds of plastic can we recycle? Why only narrow-neck bottles?"
- Have a special recyclable material collection event. You could collect computers and related electronics, televisions, toner cartridges, CDs, even cooking oil! We can help you determine where to take the collected material.
- Have a charitable donation collection event. Organize with local charities to share information on how residents' donations will benefit others. You could collect clothing, furniture, toys, books, and more.
- Kick-off a recycling competition involving different floors or buildings, and encourage participation with a prize—compact fluorescent light bulbs (this will cut down on the property's energy bill too!), a party, reusable shopping bags (imprinted with your property's logo), or money off the next rent check for the winning residents.

The County's Division of Solid Waste Services will be holding its Earth Day celebration on April 26, 2008; we hope you and your residents will join us.

While April 22 is a few months away, seek the input and involvement of your staff, residents, and community now and plan a powerful Earth Day event.

Want to host a recycling event for your residents this winter?

If so, invite us to participate.



Montgomery County's TRRAC Program can set up a display, give a presentation, and/or be available to answer your residents' recycling questions. Call us at (240) 777-6400 or e-mail us at recycle@montgomerycountymd.gov to schedule your event today.

Printed on recycled and recyclable paper. ♻️

This information is available in an alternate format by calling
Lauren Kuhn at (240) 777-6400.
(301) 417-1433
County Recycling Center
(301) 840-2370
County Transfer Station
(240) 777-6400
Recycling for Businesses
(240) 777-6400
Recycling for Multi-Family Properties
E-mail: recycle@montgomerycountymd.gov
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling
(240) 777-6465 (Fax)
(240) 777-6442 (TTY)
(240) 777-6400
Division of Solid Waste Services
Important Contact Information
Rockville, MD 20850
101 Monroe Street, 6th Floor
Contact: Lauren Kuhn
Multi-Family Recycling Program
Montgomery County Division of Solid Waste Services

Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums



JANUARY 2008

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